



February 2011 | [Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Disaster Recovery, Ten Years After: The Gujarat, India Experience

In the past decade, there have been many devastating natural disasters, from Iran's 2003 Bam earthquake and the Asian tsunami of 2004 to Hurricane Katrina in the United States in 2005 and the earthquakes in Chile and Haiti in 2010. All of these events received extensive media attention and drew a large aid response. Those who track natural disasters have noticed a serious increase in frequency over the past decade (<http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article26290.html>).

But rapid aid and media attention do not necessarily lead to long-term recovery. More than a year after the earthquake in Haiti, pace of recovery remains slow. Numerous media stories highlighted the lack of progress.

For the people caught up in these tragedies, quickly returning to a normal life is paramount for psychological and physical health. But this is often the hardest part. Some countries do this well and others do not.

On January 26, 2001, an earthquake laid waste to a large region of the Indian state of Gujarat (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2001_Gujarat_earthquake). Ten years later there is a remarkable recovery that has taken place. So how did they do it?

The 7.9-magnitude quake killed an estimated 20,000 people, injured 150,000, made a million homeless, and destroyed around 8,000 villages. It devastated the Kutch district capital, Bhuj, and other major towns.

In the decade since the earthquake, the state has averaged double-digit growth. Despite having only five percent of the country's population, Gujarat racks up impressive economic achievements: it has a fifth of India's exports and a sixth of its industrial production. It has a long-standing entrepreneurial culture based on trade. It can draw on a well-connected global diaspora that ensures a steady inflow of new thinking and investment. Members of this diaspora also contributed to the US \$130 million in aid that poured into the region after the quake.

One of the factors contributing to the successful recovery is effective government action.

The disaster has been turned into an opportunity to jolt the region out of the "Middle Ages and into the modern world," NGO worker Navin Prasad told the BBC.

All the media attention, support and cash at the time forced the Indian government to pay attention to a region it had ignored in the past.

The army came in to help with the emergency and the Indian government allocated US \$2 billion to the reconstruction that followed.

Aid was used well and in the first two years many of the damaged villages were rebuilt. And not just rebuilt to what they were, but completely modernized. New houses were constructed to high standards, with more rooms and lots of light. They also came with running water and a toilet. New facilities like medical centres and communal areas were put in place.

The district capital of Bhuj was levelled in the earthquake. But new plans for the city were drafted in the following years. Now Bhuj has two new ring roads, a new airport, parks and shops. Streets were widened and new water

In this issue:

[Disaster Recovery, Ten Years After: The Gujarat, India Experience](#)
[Chilean Eco-Buildings Pioneering Construction Methods](#)
[Model Cities across the South Challenge Old Ways](#)
[Indian Newspapers Thrive with Economy](#)

Featured Links

[Babajob.com](#)
[Equator Initiative](#)
[Kiva.org](#)
[SSC Website](#)
[FUNDING](#)

Quick Links

[Window on the World](#)
[Upcoming Events](#)
[Training Opportunities](#)
[Job Opportunities](#)
[Past Issues](#)

Bookmark With



[What are these?](#)

and sewage works installed.

But along with the new infrastructure and plenty of cash, came something more important for the region's long-term recovery: economic growth. The Indian government created tax-free zones drawing in private investment. An astonishing US \$10 billion in private investment has come in with US \$7 billion more to come, according to the BBC.

One miraculous turnaround is in the former tiny fishing port of Mundra. Prior to the earthquake, it sat in the middle of a salt marsh. It is now India's largest private port and rivals Mumbai with its Mundra Port and Special Economic Zone (<http://www.portofmundra.com/>), incorporated in 2003. The Adani Group, a very large Indian private company with global interests (<http://www.adanigroup.com/index.html>), owns the port now worth US \$7 billion, hiring many people once dependent on aid agencies for income.

The head of the Adani Foundation the charitable wing of the Adani Group, Sushma Oza, told the BBC how the company is spending its profits on further developing the area: "Our own budget for social development in this region is \$6m a year, so you can imagine how we are trying to change the lives of people to live in a better way," she said.

In the western portion of the state, in the administrative district of Kutch which is home to Bhuj, around 300 businesses have been established, including the Welspun towel factory (<http://www.welspun.com/content.asp?Link=Y&SubmenuID=24>). The biggest towel factory in the world, it was built in just nine months and makes 250,000 towels a day. An ambitious firm, it bought the British company Christy (<http://www.christy-towels.com/>), maker of the official Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championship towels.

So why towels in Kutch? Welspun chairman Balkrishan Goenka laid down the incentives to the BBC: "There were no local taxes for the first five years and no excise duties. Nor were there indirect taxes to government - they were exempted for five years."

"Those were the primary benefits," he said. "More than that there was huge support from the local government so industry can come faster."

Since the earthquake, 110,000 jobs have been created in Kutch alone. More importantly for the area's future, it is has gone from neglected backwater to a significant pillar of the Indian economy.

Another driver of recovery was the growth of the dairy industry. The Bhuj dairy plant collapsed in the earthquake and was then rebuilt by the National Dairy Development Board (<http://www.nddb.org/>). The plant can now process 50,000 litres of milk a day and is run by the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (<http://www.amul.com/organisation.html>), India's largest food products marketing organization. It has 2.9 million producer members and represents 15,322 village societies.

Not everyone has turned their lives around, however. Aid workers estimate thousands are still living in temporary shelters. They defecate in the open and few have clean water. Just getting two meals a day is a problem.

There are complaints about the landless and tenants not receiving the same help.

"Many are tribal, others are low-caste communities, some are Muslims - but they all have one thing in common: poverty," Bharat Parmer, program coordinator for ActionAid International in Kutch, told Alertnet.

"A large number of these people were tenants and did not own land and so it has been much harder for them to claim their rights as rehabilitation was very much focused on home and land owners."

But local authorities say rehabilitation schemes have been comprehensive, covering all those who were hit by the

quake.

"I don't think that there are people who did not get what they were due - there may be a rare case here and there but we have rehabilitated all that were in need," said Gunvant Vaghela, the second-most senior civil servant in Kutch district.

Links

How to activate support from the global technology community in a disaster. Website:

<http://crisiscommons.org/>

Website: <http://www.afriqueavenir.org/en/>

UNICEF: Community-Based Disaster Preparedness Projects (CBDPs) in India have been helping communities restructure to survive when disaster strikes. Website: <http://www.unicef.org.uk/campaigns>

Website: <https://www.afrocoffee.com/index.php?id=4&menustate=&L=1>

The US Government has extensive resources online on how to prepare for a wide variety of natural and man-made disasters. Website:

<http://www.fema.gov/areyouready/>

Website: <http://tinyurl.com/2vk3m9n>

The magazine Popular Mechanics has excellent resources on how anyone can prepare their family and community for disasters. Website:

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/survival/>

Website: <http://www.arisemagazine.net/>

Telecoms Sans Frontiers: Focuses on providing communications in the first days after an emergency. Website: <http://www.tsfi.org/>

Website: <http://annansi.com/blog/2010/12/growth-and-spending-of-african-consumer-video/>

Chilean Eco-Buildings Pioneering Construction Methods

Across the global South, the search is on for new ways to build without extracting a high price from local environments.

More and more people are recognizing the advantages of energy-saving methods like prefabrication. Prefab building techniques involve assembling a structure from pre-assembled parts or modules made in a factory, or transporting a completed, factory-made structure to a site (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prefabricated_building). Pre-fabrication has many advantages, especially now that information technologies bring precision to the building process. Prefabrication means the construction process can be tightly controlled, helping to avoid waste, time delays, weather problems, or any of the other idiosyncrasies of a building site. It can also allow large numbers of dwellings to be built quickly by maximizing skills and efficiencies in an assembly-line model of production.

In South America, a Chilean architecture company has pioneered innovative methods to build and deploy accommodation for tourists in an ecologically fragile area. The prefabricated wood cabins also use many emerging saving technologies and clever design tweaks to protect privacy when located close together.

Easter Island (Rapa Nui) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Easter_Island) sits 3,500 kilometers off the Chilean coast and is well known for its iconic, giant head ancient stone statues, or moai (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moai>). Around 3,791 people live on the island - one of the most isolated inhabited islands in the world - which is both a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a popular tourist destination.

Tourism is vital to the local economy and many people make their living from it. Enterprises making money from tourists range from dive shops and craft stores to restaurants and hotels.

The island has had a good connection between tourism and improvements in living conditions, with tangible improvements made since the increase in tourism in the 1960s. Clean water and electricity were provided and a hospital and a school built.

In the past few years, more flights from Peru and Chile have increased

opportunities to visit the island and lowered flight times. The island's only airport is being expanded to further increase the capacity of flights, a project due to be completed by 2015.

But tourist numbers in 2010 declined from 2009 and this has been attributed to ongoing conflicts between Chilean authorities and the indigenous Rapa Nui people over ancestral lands.

Here as elsewhere, the challenge is to balance tourism with the fragile local environment. Any further expansion of tourism will need to sit lightly on the land and respect the rights of the Rapa Nui people.

The brief for the Morerava eco cabins (<http://www.morerava.com/>) was to provide environmentally sensitive accommodation that uses few local resources. Built by Santiago-based Chilean architects AATA Associate Architects (<http://aata.cl/>), the cabins were prefabricated in a factory and shipped to the island during 2010.

The architects specialize in industrial, commercial, educational and institutional, residential and interior design. They pay attention to environmental conditions and the use of resources.

The cabins are arranged around an elliptical courtyard reflecting the shape of the island's flag design. They have an open-plan set-up and are long and skinny, with rooms arranged in a line from end to end. Nine cabins accommodate six people each. Cleverly, they are designed to retain privacy while being close together. Privacy is maintained through a strategic use of window placement. On one side of the cabin, the windows are high, while they are low at foot level on the opposite side. This prevents there being a direct sight line into the next cabin, while allowing plenty of light to stream in.

Having the cabins built on the Chilean mainland avoided using up local vegetation and resources. Easter Island once was covered with a palm forest. But over the centuries of human habitation, the forests were cut down and the island became almost barren.

Propped up on stilts, the cabins hover over the moist grass floor to avoid damage from rot. The roof is sturdy and made from zinc steel.

They use little water and energy to function. Cross-ventilation airs the cabins and avoids mechanical systems like energy-gobbling air conditioners. Electricity on the island is generated from expensive petrol, so any means to avoid using it means a big savings.

With a mild climate, the cabins do not need insulation.

Water is captured from rainfall on the roof and is then drained into a storage tank below the cabins (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainwater_harvesting), and hot water is provided by solar heaters placed on the rooftops. This system circulates the hot water without electricity by using a technology called thermosiphon (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermosiphon>) which exploits the natural phenomenon of heated water being less dense and rising while cooler water flows downward through the force of gravity.

At the other end of the construction spectrum, one of the most notoriously energy-wasting of structures – an office building – has been given a green makeover. Another Chilean pioneer in green architecture is the Santiago headquarters of Empresas Transoceanica (<http://www.transoceanica.cl/>), a private investment company in real estate, hotels and tourism, agro-industry and logistics. Its new campus HQ - part park, part office building - maximizes light through the building's long and bulbous shape.

Designed to reduce energy demand while improving work spaces, it favours natural light while avoiding excess heat build up through wooden slats outside the building.

Geothermal energy comes from a well 75 metres below ground. This provides water cooled at 12 degrees Celsius, to cool the building. The building has been built following the strict environmental guidelines laid down in the LEED guidelines (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) - an internationally recognized green building certification system (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leadership_in_Energy_and_Environmental_Design)).

Extensive planning and design work went into making sure the building's structure, orientation, lighting, insulation and landscaping reduced energy use and need for energy-intensive mechanical solutions. Skylights bring natural light into the building's public spaces. There are three stories above ground and two stories below providing underground parking.

The landscaped park around the building is actually the roof for the underground parking garage. The whole edifice creates a seamless connection between the building and the greenery and water features surrounding it.

Links

Series of photographs and architectural renderings of the Transoceanica headquarters. Website: <http://www.plataformaarquitectura.cl/2010/10/28/edificio-transoceanica-arquitectos-2/>

Website: <http://www.wines-info.com/en/index.aspx>

World Hands Project: An NGO specialising in simple building techniques for the poor. Website: www.worldhandsproject.org

Website: <http://www.interwine.org/interwine/pages/2010/index.interwine>

Builders Without Borders: Is an international network of ecological builders who advocate the use of straw, earth and other local, affordable materials in construction. Website: <http://builderswithoutborders.org/>

Website: <http://www.szwinehub.com/en/>

An inspiring collection of prefabrication buildings and the techniques used to make them. Website: <http://inhabitat.com/architecture/prefab-housing/>

Website: <http://www.zimbabwetourism.net>

Tiny House Design Blog: The blog is full of ideas and plans for making small homes cheaply. Website: <http://www.tinyhousedesign.com/>

Website: <http://www.sowetowinefestival.co.za/About.htm>

Building and Social Housing Foundation: The Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) is an independent research organisation that promotes sustainable development and innovation in housing through collaborative research and knowledge transfer. Website: <http://www.bshf.org/>

Website: <http://www.sowetowinefestival.co.za/About.htm>

Model Cities Across the South Challenge Old Ways

Pioneering thinking about how resources are used and how people live their lives is taking place in the dynamic economies of the global South. Facing a vast population surge to urban areas, these include attempts to build "green" cities and low-waste, smart and digital communities.

These model cities are clever solutions for the world's growing – and urbanizing – populations coping with a stressed and damaged environment. Unlike one-off technologies and ideas developed in isolation, the model cities approach starts from scratch. They become living laboratories on which research and development take place at the heart of the community, not just the preserve of aloof academics hidden away in labs.

This is critical work because the world is rapidly urbanizing and needs solutions to ensure this process does not lead to chaos and misery. How these cities turn out could hold the fate of humanity and much is at stake. According to a report by the International Institute for Environment and Development, Africa now has a larger urban population than North America and 25 of the world's fastest growing big cities. Getting to grips with urban development will be critical for the future of the continent and the wellbeing of its people.

By 2025, Asia could have 10 or more cities with populations larger than 20 million (Far Eastern Economic Review). People will be living in densely populated cities and they will need to be smart cities if they are to work.

In the United Arab Emirates (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abu_Dhabi), Masdar City (<http://www.masdar.ae/en/home/index.aspx>), is a model city not only being built, but being used as way to develop commercially successful environment technologies – renewable energy solutions and clean technologies – that will turn into future income for the city and Abu Dhabi.

The traditional approach in other countries has been to keep scientists and innovators disconnected from the living, breathing city. They toil away in labs or universities and only really get to test their technologies and theories after going through lengthy testing and approval by a city's government. As Masdar's website says, this city will develop "from research to commercial deployment – with the aim of creating scalable clean energy solutions."

The planned community will be 6 square kilometres in size and wants to be "one of the most sustainable cities in the world". Located 17 kilometres from Abu Dhabi, it hopes to be a pedestrian-friendly town home to 40,000 residents. At the heart of Masdar City is the Masdar Institute: a research university developed with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The students are the city's first residents and a range of top international companies are planning to locate in there as well. German technology company Siemens will place its Middle East headquarters in Masdar and its Center of Excellence in Building Technologies R&D centre. Others joining them include GE, BASF, Schneider and the Korea Technopark Association.

The Surbana Urban Planning Group (www.surbana.com) spent five decades developing its experience with the rapid growth of Singapore

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singapore>): a city-state boasting the highest quality of life in Asia (Economist Intelligence Unit) which took itself from an impoverished city to one of the world's leading export and manufacturing economies. Surbana built 26 planned townships in Singapore that now house 85 percent of the city's 4.5 million residents. It specializes in designing, implementing and maintaining complex urban areas.

Singapore has pioneered a number of ways to house a large population within a small territory. This experience is now being put to work in China at the Tianjin Eco-City development (<http://www.tianjinecocity.gov.sg/masterplan.htm>). Known for high pollution levels due to heavy industry Tianjin will undergo a big change. The project aims to develop a template that can be used for other cities throughout China and around the world.

The 30-square-kilometre Tianjin Eco-City is being built around a wetland and river. The idea is to offer its residents an environment with easy access to recreational spaces and the natural environment. The transport system will avoid cars and instead use a light rail system as the main mode of transport. It should be home to 350,000 people.

Cleverly, each suburban area will have commercial sub-centres to enable as many people as possible to work locally and avoid the need to commute long distances. The Eco-City will be built by assembling "eco-cell" – like a bee's honeycomb - neighbourhoods self-contained with schools, child care, commercial and work areas, and parks. This set up is geared to collecting a common mistake in other new developments that only consider housing, forgetting about how people work, shop and recreate.

There will be seven distinct neighbourhoods: Lifescape, Eco-Valley, Solarscape, Urbanscape, Windscape, Earthscape and Eco-Corridors (<http://inhabitat.com/tianjin-eco-city-is-a-futuristic-green-landscape-for-350000-residents/>). An "Eco-Valley" will run through the city as a green spine connecting north and south.

It is hoped the city will be completed by 2020. Just 10 minutes' drive from the Tianjin Economic-Technological Development Area (<http://en.investteda.org/>) business parks, the residents should be well served for jobs.

In South Korea, the Digital Media City in Seoul (<http://dmc.seoul.go.kr/eng/index.do>) bills itself as a "harmony of nature, high-tech, and culture". The Seoul municipal government devised the DMC in the 1990s to capitalize on the economic and social benefits of being the world's most digitally wired nation.

The DMC project serves the nation's larger goals of transitioning from a manufacturing to an innovation economy and promoting Seoul as an east-Asian hub for commerce. The DMC is about creating new business opportunities.

But this isn't just about business and research and development: it is a comprehensive digital economy experience, with schools, housing for the affiliates of international firms, moderate and lower-income housing, commercial and convention facilities, entertainment zones, and the city's central rail station are all located in or near the Digital Media City.

Links

More Urban, Less Poor: The first textbook to explore urban development and management and challenge the notion unplanned shanty towns without basic services are the inevitable consequence of urbanization. Website:

www.earthscan.co.uk

Website: www.SlowFood.com

ArrivalCity: The Final Migration and Our Next World by Doug Saunders. Website: www.arrivalcity.net

Website: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6z0ywkHPPQ>

Indian Newspapers Thrive with Economy

The onslaught of digital media in the developed countries of the world regularly brings pronouncements of the death of the traditional newspaper. But this assumption of digital triumph misses out on the reality in countries across the global South.

As incomes rise and literacy levels go up, so does the desire to consume news and information. And while many are jumping straight to online and mobile phone sources, just as many are enjoying more traditional print media offerings like magazines and newspapers.

India boasts both a fast-growing economy and the largest number of paid-for newspapers

in the world. The print media industry in India has seen phenomenal growth since 2005, with the number newspaper titles increasing by 40 percent to 2,700 (World Association of Newspapers). The two factors driving this growth in newspapers are rising literacy and a booming economy

The World Association of Newspapers found China leads the world for newspaper subscribers, with 93.5 million readers a day. India is second. It is estimated the Indian newspaper industry will generate US \$3.8 billion in revenues in 2010, a 13 percent growth rate over the last five years.

Estimates place growth in the newspaper industry in the next four years at 9 percent a year, to US \$5.9 billion (KPMG).

Part of the reason India is defying the decline in newspaper numbers and readership seen in developed countries is poor internet penetration across the country. Because of this, only 7 percent of the population uses the web for information. And the country's high number of illiterates (just 65 percent of the population can read) means even if many could afford a newspaper, they couldn't use it.

According to Amar Ambani, head of research at India Infoline Group, "Unlike the West where the internet publishing and advertising has significantly hit the print media, the Internet threat to print media is still in its nascent stage in India, given the low penetration of computers and adequate bandwidth across the country."

Newspapers are also growing in a highly competitive market exploding with new television channels on cable and satellite and other media distractions like mobile phone applications.

The newspapers (<http://www.world-newspapers.com/india.html>) are a strong reflection of how much the economy has changed in the past decade. They contain advertisements for property, mobile phones, cars and dating services.

Cost is also a critical element in their success: at only four rupees each (US \$0.09 cents), many Indians buy several newspapers at a time for their home. The publications are able to charge so little because of the health of the advertising revenue coming in. Newspaper advertising in India increased by 30 percent between January and March 2010 alone, the quickest jump in ads for the Asia-Pacific region (Nielsen India).

There is a hierarchy in the newspaper industry: English-language newspapers attract wealthier readers and can charge the most for advertising. But rising literacy rates combined with increasing personal wealth is fuelling growth in regional papers written in local languages. India has 22 official languages and English as an associate language. The country as a whole has about 33 different languages and over 2,000 local dialects. Hindi newspaper circulation rose from 8 million in the early 1990s to over 25 million in 2009.

The Times of India (<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>) is now the world's largest circulation English-language newspaper, with 4 million readers. It uses this success to charge 10 times what regional papers can for advertising. At present, the regional newspapers' bread-and-butter is mostly government-paid advertising.

But if trends continue as they are, then the tables will turn on big beasts like the Times of India. Regional papers will grow as people look for an opportunity to read in their own local language.

Flush with cash and confidence, Indian newspapers are also innovating new ways to advertise untried in other countries. Talking ads attached to the actual newspaper's back pages caused a great stir when they were trialled in India recently (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/greenslade/2010/sep/28/newspapers-advertising>). The talking ads for a car company delivered a sales pitch but also alarmed and annoyed many people because the talking ad wouldn't stop talking.

Ambani puts the success of the Indian newspaper industry down to five factors: the economic boom in semi-urban and rural India; growing local content; more opportunity to grow the number of readers; rising advertising spending; and rising literacy as a result of rising secondary school enrolment. He believes students aged between 10 and 15 are getting the newspaper habit and they represent huge future growth in newspaper readers.

Links

A ranking of Indian newspapers by number of readers

Website: <http://www.4imn.com/in/>

The Gujarat Global news portal: An article by an academic on India's modern founder Gandhi and journalism.

Website: http://www.gujaratglobal.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2239&Itemid=38

A list of links to Indian online and offline newspapers.

Website: <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/india.htm>

BOOKS

How the West Was Lost: Fifty Years of Economic Folly – And the Stark Choices Ahead by Dambisa Moyo,

Publisher: Allen Lane.

The new book from challenging thinker Moyo, it argues the West needs to start following China's economic model or face economic ruin.

Website: www.amazon.com

The China Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform by Justin Yifu Lin

Publisher: The Chinese University Press

Website: www.eurospanbookstore.com

Africa in the Global Economy by Richard E. Mshomba

Publisher: Lynne Rienner

Website: www.eurospanbookstore.com

The Recession Prevention Handbook: Eleven Case Studies, 1948-2007 by Norman Frumkin

Publisher: M. E. Sharpe

Website: www.eurospanbookstore.com

Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance by David McNally

Publisher: PM Press

Website: www.amazon.com

Famine and Foreigners: Ethiopia Since Live Aid

by Peter Gill, Publisher: OUP

Website: www.amazon.com

Cities for All: Proposals and Experiences towards the Right to the City editors Ana Sugranyes and Charlotte Mathivet

Publisher: Habitat International Coalition

Website: English: <http://www.hic-net.org/document.php?pid=3399>

Website: Spanish : <http://www.hic-net.org/document.php?pid=3400>

Website: Portuguese: <http://www.hic-net.org/document.php?pid=3401>

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development

Publisher: Making Cents International

Website: www.combinedacademic.co.uk

Terrorism and the Economy: How the War on Terror is Bankrupting the World

by Loretta Napoleoni, Publisher: Seven Stories Press

Website: <http://www.youthenterpriseconference.org>

War Games: The Story of Aid and War in Modern Times

by Linda Polman, Publisher: Viking.

Website: www.amazon.com

Globalization and Competition: Why Some Emergent Countries Succeed while Others Fall Behind

by Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Website: http://www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12_GACL.htm

State of the World 2010: Transforming Cultures from Consumerism to Sustainability

by Erik Assadourian & Staff, Publisher: Worldwatch Institute, 2010

Website: <http://www.worldwatch.org/sow10>

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit?

by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development

Website: http://www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

PAPERS

Information Economy Report 2010: ICTs, Enterprises and Poverty Alleviation

Publisher: UNCTAD

Website: <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=13912&intltemID=2068&lang=1>

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life

Publisher: UNHABITAT

Website: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011>

-

Competitiveness and Private Sector Development: Egypt 2010

Publisher: OECD

Website: <http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?sf1=identifiers&st1=252010041P1&LANG=EN>

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010

Publisher: Commission for Africa

Website: <http://www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report>

-

World Economic Outlook Update: Restoring Confidence without Harming Recovery

Publisher: IMF

Website: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/update/02/index.htm>

Trade and Development Report, 2010: Employment, Globalization and Development

Publisher: UNCTAD

Website: <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=13740&intltemID=2068&lang=1>

Empowering People and Transforming Society: The World Economic Forum's Technology Pioneers 2011

Publisher: World Economic Forum

Website: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/35953976/Technology-Pioneers-2011>

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries

Publisher: OECD

Website: <http://www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmmmp8lncrns-en>

The BRICSAM Countries and Changing World Economic Power: Scenarios to 2050 by Manmohan Agarwal

Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation.

Working Paper: Shifting Global Power. Africa and Mexico has the potential to change the balance of economic power in the world. This paper analyzes this potential building on developments in these economies over the past four decades in the context of the evolution of the world economy.

Website: http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_39-web-1.pdf

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada

Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation.

Working Paper: Shifting Global Power. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development.

Website: http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf

Europe-North Korea: Between Humanitarianism and Business?

Edited by Myungkyu Park, Bernhard Seliger and Sung-Jo Park, Publisher: LIT

Working Paper: Shifting Global Power. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development.

Website: www.gpic.nl/EU-NorthKoreabook.pdf

WEB BASED ARTICLES

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides.

Website: <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe.

Website: <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

Global Development: Launched in September 2010

- This new website from the Guardian newspaper will track progress on the MDGs, encourage debate on its blogs, offer a rich datastore collating datasets from around the world, and feature monthly podcasts and resources for schools.

Website: www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international.

Website: www.globalurbanist.com

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin

A web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

Website: <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program

The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services.

Website: www.yfslink.org

Peopquake: Mass Migration, Ageing Nations and the Coming Population Crash

by Fred Pearce, Publisher: Eden Project

Website: www.amazon.com

Raising the Global Floor: Dismantling the Myth That We Can't Afford Good Working Conditions for Everyone

by Jody Heyman and Alison Earle, Publisher: Stanford University Press

Website: www.sup.org

Half the Sky: Turning Oppression Into Opportunity for Women Worldwide

by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, Publisher: Knopf

Website: www.amazon.com

Gravity Shift: How Asia's New Economic Powerhouses Will Shape the 21st Century

by Wendy Dobson, Publisher: Rotman UTP

Website: www.utpublishing.com

Top African Banker Defends Investment from China

by Anne Seith, Publisher: Spiegel Online

Website: <http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0.1518.674887.00.html#ref=nlint>

Africa: Africa's Counter-Cyclical Policy Responses to the Crisis

by Louis Kasekende, Zuzana Brixova and Leonce Ndikumana, Journal of Globalization and Development, Vol. 1, Issue 1, 2010, Article 16

Website: <http://www.afdb.org>

Upcoming Events

March

Social Media Marketing Strategy and ROI

Bangkok, Thailand (1-2 March 2011)

Both B2B and B2C marketers will be exposed to a number of examples, tools, tactics and fundamental theories on how to build a successful social media strategy in the context of the other traditional media. This workshop builds on the required internal framework, guidelines and infrastructure required to support a successful social media marketing strategy and is packed with practical information, real-life case studies and stimulating exercises.

Website: <http://www.marcusevanspt-asia.com/professional-training-course-details.asp?RecID=592>

Southern Hemisphere: Implementing a Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation System

Cape Town, South Africa (15-17 March 2011)

Southern Hemisphere has for some years now been leading in the design of M&E systems in South Africa. Our experience is drawn from a range of different clients, including NGO's, South African Government and multi-lateral organisations. Learning by doing has given us very practical insights into the steps to follow and each step is designed to maximise commitment and compliance. As you know, the best system needs the commitment of people to implement it. The objective of this course in M&E system design is to equip development practitioners with the knowledge and expertise to be able to design and manage a process of developing and operationalising (implementing) a M&E System.

Website: <http://www.evaluation.lars-balzer.name/calendar/events/index.php?com=detail&eID=3992>

Retail Marketing Excellence

Bangkok, Thailand (21-22 March 2011)

The essence of this conference is structured to relate to individuals who have direct control and responsibilities within the retail marketing environment of their respective organisations. Seize this opportunity to discover and understand how developing an extraordinary retail marketing strategy will not only help boost your sales but create the

awareness of your brand and product in every shopper's mind.

Website: http://www.marcusevans.com/marcusevans-conferences-event-details.asp?EventID=17467&ad=BK-MK2130BC&SectorID=30&me_cid=10444&Date=10/12/2010%2006:37:58

Getting Better: Why Global Development is Succeeding: And How We Can Improve Implementing Sound Practices in Youth-Inclusive Financial Services and Market Research with Young Clients

Frankfurt, Germany (21-25 March 2011)

During this 4-day course, Making Cents will facilitate a practical hands-on capacity building program for organizations looking to more effectively serve as a provider or a link to providers of youth-inclusive financial services. Through applied activities, case study discussions, and experiential learning, the course will provide participants with an understanding of the issues particular to the youth market and will introduce participants to the tools and field experience necessary to conduct market research with young people.

Website: www.yfslink.org

Online Information Asia-Pacific 2011

Hong Kong, China (23-24 March 2011)

The event will bring together a comprehensive range of international suppliers alongside local companies in a Pan-Asian event serving the information community. The event will focus on 4 key sectors: Business Information, STM Information, ePublishing Solutions and Library Systems and is set to attract information professionals, librarians and knowledge managers from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Website: <http://www.online-information.asia/>

Market Research with Young Clients and Adapting and Developing Financial Services for Young Clients

Lucknow, India (21-25 March 2011)

During this 4-day course, Making Cents will facilitate a practical hands-on capacity building program for organizations looking to more effectively serve as a provider or a link to providers of youth-inclusive financial services. Through applied activities, case study discussions, and experiential learning, the course will provide participants with an understanding of the issues particular to the youth market and will introduce participants to the tools and field experience necessary to conduct market research with young people.

Website: www.yfslink.org

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services Training and Training of Trainers

Bali, Indonesia (22-31 March 2011)

During this 6-day course, Making Cents will facilitate a practical hands-on capacity building program for organizations looking to more effectively serve as a provider or a link to providers of youth-inclusive financial services.

Website: www.yfslink.org

Sustainable Environment Technology

Los Angeles, CA, USA (31 March – 2 April 2011)

ESustainable Environment Technology (SET) is a hot topic in the news as well as in your community. Everyone is interested in what they can do to increase efficiency while becoming more environmentally friendly. At SET2011 you can learn about new available technology as well as innovative developments.

Website: <http://set2011.com/>

April

Housing Forum Europe and Central Asia

Budapest, Hungary (4-6 April 2011)

The past few years have demonstrated just how central housing is to our economic, environmental and human development in the Europe and Central Asia region. Housing is central to many aspects of our lives: education, security, health, employment, communities and even our identity. For the first time, housing decision makers, professionals, policy makers and other major stakeholders are aiming to build a sustainable and resilient housing future for Europe and Central Asia.

Website: <http://www.ecahousingforum.eu/>

Brand Protection & Anti-Counterfeiting Interactive Forum

Copenhagen, Denmark (11-13 April 2011)

Brand Protection and Anti-Counterfeiting: Interactive Forum 2011 is the 5th brand protection event in Legal IQ's Brand Protection Series, bringing you the latest case studies, essential best practise strategies and the new and emerging topics from world-leading brand owners. Join your peers and protect your brand against IPR infringements, counterfeiters and illicit trade.

Website: <http://www.brandprotectioninteractive.com/Event.aspx?id=438196>

Engineering Sustainability 2011 Innovation and the Triple Bottom Line

Pittsburgh, PA, USA (10 - 12 April 2011)

Engineering Sustainability 2011 will bring together engineers and scientists from academia, government, industry, and non-profits to share results of cutting edge research and practice directed at development of environmentally sustainable buildings and infrastructure.

Website: <http://www.mascarocenter.pitt.edu/conference/>

World Economic Forum on Latin America 2011

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (27-29 April 2011)

Latin America, a thriving region of more than 600 million people, has a promising decade ahead. It is a leading global trader of agro-products with major reserves of raw materials and immense rainforests, which are vital for the global climate and hold potential for renewable energies. Major global environment and sports events are to take place in the region in the coming years, and most countries are on the front line in attracting private investment. They offer remarkable opportunities for a growing number of modern industries to develop, while innovative reforms are being promoted to foster economic growth and improve the quality of life for the majority.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-latin-america-2011>

May

World Economic Forum on Africa 2011

Cape Town, South Africa (4-6 May 2011)

Africa has demonstrated greater than expected resilience through the global economic crisis and has become one of the fastest-growing regions in the world. Improved political and macroeconomic stability, strengthened political commitment to private sector investment and better access to basic education and social services are drivers behind this trend. However, the translation of growth into inclusive and sustained development is complex. It will depend on the leadership capacity and political will of its governing institutions to direct taxes, profits and donor funds to much-needed infrastructure investment, better urban design and critical health, and education services.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-africa-2011>

African Programme on Rethinking Development Economics

Johannesburg, South Africa (5-19 May 2011)

APORDE is a high-level training programme in development economics which aims to build capacity in economics and economic policy-making. The course will run for two weeks and consist of lectures and seminars taught by leading international and African economists.

Website: http://networkideas.org/events/oct2010/aporde_call_2011.pdf

Broadband World Forum Asia 2011

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (10-11 May 2011)

The largest broadband event in the Asia-Pacific region. Bringing together over 2,500 experts including 1,000's of fixed & mobile operators from both developed and emerging markets across Asia.

Website: <http://www.broadbandworldforum.com/asia>

E-Health Week

Budapest, Hungary (10-12 May 2011)

eHealth week is a platform for all stakeholders in the Health IT community and compliments your national conference, by: Offering answers by high-level speakers; Presenting a modern and wide-ranging exhibition, including an interoperability showcase to demonstrate how data can travel across different suppliers and borders; Allowing you to network with government- and industry leaders from across the European continent; an opportunity rarely seen at other European conferences.

Website: <http://www.worldofhealthit.org/>

6th International Conference on ICT for Development, Education and Training

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (25-27 May 2011)

eLearning Africa 2011 will focus on youth but it will also highlight the importance of skills, skill development and employability. Is it appropriate then to refer to Africa's youth as 'digital natives' or 'Generation Y'? Whilst the majority of Africa's young population can be more appropriately considered as 'digital outcasts,' there are layers of African youth who have had varying experiences with 'growing up digitally'. What are these experiences and how are they manifested?

Website: <http://www.elearning-africa.com/>

Global Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Creating Sustainable Businesses in the Knowledge Economy

Helsinki, Finland (30 May to 4 June 2011)

The Government of Finland will host the 4th Global Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, a biennial infoDev flagship event that convenes a global grassroots innovation and entrepreneurship community to discuss issues of interest, explore new business models, ideas and methodologies, as well as to network with one another. Previous Global Forums were held in India and Brazil and convened over 1,000 professionals from more than 70 countries.

The 4th Global Forum will feature the following activities:

- An Innovation policy roundtable convening developing country policymakers who have put innovation and entrepreneurship at the forefront of their development agenda.
- A Technology Venture Showcase to facilitate international market access and early-stage financing for technology entrepreneurs and start-ups.

Website: <http://www.infodev.org/en/Project.118.html>

UN Conference on Least Developed Countries

Istanbul, Turkey (30 May to 3 June 2011)

The purpose of the conference is to:

1. Assess the results of the 10-year action plan for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on LDCs in Brussels, Belgium, in 2001.
2. Adopt new measures and strategies for the sustainable development of the LDCs into the next decade.

Preparations for the conference are in progress, with activities at national, regional and global levels. It is an inclusive process involving the participation of all stakeholders, including governments, international organisations, civil society organisations, academia and the private sector.

Website: <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/ldc/home>

June

Two Decades of Democracy and Governance in Africa: Lessons Learned, Challenges and Prospects

Dakar, Senegal (20-22 June 2011)

International Conference on: Two Decades of Democracy and Governance in Africa: Lessons Learned, Challenges and Prospects organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa, the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), Dakar and Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC

Website: <http://www.iag-agi.org/spip/Two-Decades-of-Democracy-and.1758.html>

September

2011 Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference

Washington, DC, USA (7-9 September 2011)

This 5th anniversary conference will provide a learning platform for the world's leading donors, practitioners, technical assistance providers, policy makers, and academics working to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Join 400 professionals from over 60 countries to share lessons learned, promising practices, and innovative ideas through technical workshops, engaging plenary sessions, and interactive networking. The result? Higher-impact programming, breakthrough solutions, and proven approaches.

Email: conference@makingcents.com.

Website: <http://www.youtheconomicopportunities.org/>

November

Fourth High Level Forum: The Path to Effective Development

Busan, South Korea (29 November to 1 December 2011)

Ministers and specialists will not only take stock of what has been advanced since 2008, but also set out a new framework for increasing the quality of aid in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Developing countries have named their priorities for HLF-4 as: predictable aid; use of country systems; an end to policy conditionality; country-driven capacity development; mutual accountability and reduced transaction costs.

Website: http://www.oecd.org/document/12/0,3343,en_2649_3236398_46057868_1_1_1_1,00.html

2012

Earth Summit 2012: Towards a World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2012

Rio, Brazil (TBC 2012)

The United Nations General Assembly agreed to a new Earth Summit in December. The Summit will be in 2012 and will be hosted by Brazil. The themes are the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the institutional framework for sustainable development, emerging issues and a review of present commitments. This site will keep you abreast of all the developments and latest news.

Website: <http://www.earthsummit2012.org/>

Awards

Philips Liveable Cities Award

Philips are looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

Website: <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

2010 Africa Awards for Entrepreneurship

The 2010 Legatum Africa Awards for Entrepreneurship are now open for entries from the very best small and medium-sized businesses from across 15 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The Grand Prize is US\$100,000 with a further five runners-up winning prizes of US\$50,000 each.

Website: www.africaawards.com

African Economic Outlook

A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels.

Website: www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

APPLY NOW! World Habitat Awards 2010/2011:

The World Habitat Awards were established in 1985 by the Building and Social Housing Foundation as part of its contribution to the United Nations International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. Two awards are given annually to projects from the global North as well as the South that provide practical and innovative solutions to current housing needs and problems. Every year an award of £10,000 is presented to each of the two winners at the annual United Nations global celebration of World Habitat Day. Travel and accommodation costs are also met for one representative of each winning project to attend the awards ceremony.

Transitions Online (TOL) is pleased to announce the launch of the 2009 TOL Photo Competition.

The topic is "20 Years After the Fall of the Iron Curtain", and TOL encourages participants to submit photographs that best capture the changes over the past 20 years in Central and Eastern Europe.

DEADLINE: December 13, 2009.

Website: <http://www.worldhabitatawards.org/enter/apply.cfm?lang=00>

Website: <http://www.tol.cz/look/TOL/article.tpl?>

[IdLanguage=1&IdPublication=18&NrIssue=1&NrSection=70&NrArticle=20946](http://www.tol.cz/look/TOL/article.tpl?IdLanguage=1&IdPublication=18&NrIssue=1&NrSection=70&NrArticle=20946)

Appeal for Help

MobileActive.org are updating their database of mobile applications used for health, social development, agriculture, advocacy, education, civic media, human rights, and other civil society areas. If you have or are developing a mobile application used in any area of social development, please enter it in the MobileActive database. There is currently no comprehensive database of mobile applications for social development available but they are building it with people's help.

Website: <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB228VO3HV6D3>

MobileTech4SocialChange

They have also set up a Wiki with the latest notices about upcoming events around the world.

Website: <http://mobiletech4socialchange.pbworks.com/>

Training Opportunities

Ongoing

Grameen Bank Microcredit Training Programs

Website: www.grameen-info.org

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Courses

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), one of the USA's best known private universities, has made all 1,800 courses in its curriculum (environmental sciences, computer studies, physics...) available free on-line, using an open source system called OpenCourseWare (OCW). Each month, some 1.5 million surfers, most of them based outside the USA, follow the lessons and lectures in PDF, audio and video formats, some are also translated into French and Portuguese. MIT is working with other universities to help them set up their own OCW.

Website: ocw.mit.edu

Sustainable Tourism Criteria

The criteria focus on four areas experts recommend as the most critical aspects of sustainable tourism: maximizing tourism's social and economic benefits to local communities; reducing negative impacts on cultural heritage; reducing harm to local environments; and planning for sustainability. The GSTC Partnership is developing educational materials and technical tools to guide hotels and tour operators in implementing the criteria.

[Website: www.sustainableTourismCriteria.org](http://www.sustainableTourismCriteria.org)

Two Workshops Offered for Development Practitioners

The community-managed microfinance course deals with providing sustainable financial services for the very poor. Although MFIs are well-established, they have mostly failed to penetrate remote rural areas because the costs are too high and the demand for credit too small. Meanwhile, over the last 15 years, massive, sustainable programmes have emerged that reach this target group at very low cost, based on autonomous, small-scale savings and loan associations. Co-sponsored by the SNHU Community Economic Development Masters Program at the Open University of Tanzania and VSL Associates.

[Website: http://rs6.net](http://rs6.net)

Careers

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

[Website: www.devex.org](http://www.devex.org)

New Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organisation that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and interview preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

[Website: www.africacareerguidance.com](http://www.africacareerguidance.com)

African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

[Website: www.diaspora-centre.org](http://www.diaspora-centre.org)

Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

[Website: www.aidworkers.net](http://www.aidworkers.net)

Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

[Website: bizzlounge.com](http://bizzlounge.com)

Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organisations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

[Website: businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com](http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com)

Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

[Website: businessfightspovetry.ning.com](http://businessfightspovetry.ning.com)

Business in Development Network (BiD)

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

[Website: www.bidnetwork.org](http://www.bidnetwork.org)

Catalogue of Poverty Networks

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organisations.

[Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org)

Connections for Development (CfD)

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organisation committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organisations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest collectively our world

[Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk](http://www.cfdnetwork.co.uk)

Development Crossing

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a

world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.
Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

Website: www.developmentaid.org

dgCommunities on the Development Gateway

dgCommunities, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

Website: topics.developmentgateway.org

Diaspora African Forum

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

Website: www.diasporafricanforum.org

Eldis Communities

Eldis aims to share the best in development, policy, practice and research. The Eldis Community is a free on-line community where you can meet others involved in international development and discuss the issues that are important to you.

Website: community.eldis.org

Enterprise Development Exchange

The Enterprise Development Exchange links related communities of practice to advance sustainable poverty eradication. It is facilitated by The SEEP Network through the Value Initiative.

Website: edexchange.seepnetwork.org

Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Forum

The FSN Forum is a global community of FSN practitioners. It bridges the knowledge divide among the different communities involved in FSN policies and strategies - such as academics, researchers and development practitioners - to improve cooperation and impacts; members in many countries across the world's five continents.

Website: <http://km.fao.org/fsn/>

Global Development Matters

Global Development Matters is designed to engage U.S. citizens and leaders in examining how rich world policies affect global poverty reduction. There is an Election '08 blog.

Website: www.globaldevelopmentmatters.org

GTZ-Communities Sustainable Economic Development

The GTZ-Communities Sustainable Economic Development are open to all practitioners, counterparts, research institutions, donors and interested consultants worldwide facilitating an inter agency exchange of experiences and best practices. This weekly updated website provides you with recent news and lessons learned from GTZ as well as from other development agencies and research institutions in the field of economic development. Its core is a comprehensive database. Participation in this open community is free of charge. However, registration is necessary.

Website: [Africa](#) | [Middle East and North Africa](#) | [Asia](#)

LED knowledge

This website is an online space for sharing the experiences and resources of people and organizations supporting local economic development processes at the local level. LED Knowledge is the result of a joint effort of the ILO-LED programme team based in Geneva, and the ILO training arm, the International Training Centre, based in Turin, Italy.

Website: www.ledknowledge.org

Network of Networks Impact Evaluation Initiative (Nonie)

Nonie is a network of networks for impact evaluation comprised of the DAC Evaluation Network, The United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), the Evaluation Cooperation Group (ECG), and a fourth network drawn from the regional evaluation associations. Its purpose is to foster a program of impact evaluation activities based on a common understanding of the meaning of impact evaluation and approaches to conducting impact evaluation.

Website: www.worldbank.org/ieg/nonie/

TakingITGlobal.org

TakingITGlobal.org is an online community that connects youth to find inspiration, access information, get involved, and take action in their local and global communities.

Website: profiles.takingitglobal.org

XING Group Microfinance Industry

In this new XING Group, microfinance professionals from all over the globe link and discuss topics of interest. Use this forum to discuss financial technology, find employment, identify training opportunities and events, and share knowledge resources with fellow members of

the microfinance industry. XING is an online networking tool to manage all personal contacts and to find interesting new business contacts. It's amazing how quickly it facilitates contact with key people.

Website: www.xing.com/

AfDevinfo - African Development Information Service

AfDevinfo tracks the mechanics of political and economic development across Sub Saharan Africa. They draw together a diverse range of publicly available data and present it as an accessible and ever expanding online database.

Website: www.afdevinfo.com

Growing Inclusive Markets (GIM)

The Growing Inclusive Markets Initiative has created a set of data, information and analytical products that will increase understanding of the markets of the poor, including existing opportunities and challenges.

Website: www.growinginclusivemarkets.org

Fellowship Opportunities

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas.

Website: www.sacca.biz

Piramal Foundation in India

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

Website: www.piramalprize.org/

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Website: pioneersofprosperity.org

African Writers Fund

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

Website: www.trustafrica.org

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Center for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan.

Email: namstct@vsnl.com

Website: www.scidev.net

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

Website: www.devex.org

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of Â£2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the world's first global youth development competition.

Website: [More Information](#)

US\$250,000 for Best Lab Design

AMD and Architecture for Humanity have announced a prize of \$250,000 for the best design for a computer lab that can be adapted and implemented in third-world countries.

Website: www.openarchitecturenetwork.org

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana

The [University of Ghana](#) has been awarded a project support grant by the [Alliance for a Green Revolution](#) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI)). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

Website: www.acci.org.za

Institute of Social Studies in The Hague

A collaboration between 25 international think tanks in international development, www.focuss.info is a search engine for indexing and social book marking online resources

in international development.

Website: <http://focuss.info/>

Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition

A social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

Website: <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in>

Echoing Green: Social Entrepreneurs Fund

They are looking for social entrepreneurs developing new solutions to social problems. They are accepting applications for their 2008 fellowships (two-year funding of up to US \$90,000 for 20 entrepreneurs).

Website: www.echoinggreen.org

Funding

UNESCO: International Centre for South-South Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation

The International Centre for South-South Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation was inaugurated in Kuala Lumpur in May 2008. The centre functions under the auspices of UNESCO. It facilitates the integration of a developmental approach into national science and technology and innovation policies, and provides policy advice. In parallel to organizing capacity-building and the exchange of experience and best practices, the centre conducts research and tackles specific problems in science, technology and innovation policy-making in developing countries.

Website: www.unesco.org

Funding - Google.org

While SMEs in rich countries represent half of GDP, they are largely absent from the formal economies of developing countries. Today, there are trillions of investment dollars chasing returns – and SMEs are a potentially high impact, high return investment. However, only a trickle of this capital currently reaches SMEs in developing countries. Our goal is to increase this flow.

Website: www.google.org

Challenge InnoCentive

A challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable.

Website: <http://www.innocentive.com>

Global Social Benefit Incubator: A US \$20,000 Bottom of the Pyramid Scholarship

Offered by Santa Clara University's Global Social Benefit Incubator, it selects 15 to 20 enterprises from developing countries and provides an eight-month mentoring process. This ends with a 10-day process in Santa Clara, where entrepreneurs work with their mentors.

Website: <http://www.socialedge.org>

Job Opportunities

- [Africa Recruit Job Compendium](#)
- [Africa Union](#)
- [CARE](#)
- [Christian Children's Fund](#)
- [ECOWAS](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [International Medical Corps](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- [Internews](#)
- [IREX](#)
- [Organization for International Migration](#)
- [Oxfam](#)
- [Relief Web Job Compendium \(UN OCHA\) \(1\)](#)
- [Relief Web Job Compendium \(UN OCHA\) \(2\)](#)
- [Save the Children](#)
- [The Development Executive Group job compendium](#)
- [Trust Africa](#)
- [UN Jobs](#)
- [UNDP](#)
- [UNESCO](#)
- [UNICEF](#)
- [World Bank](#)
- [World Wildlife Fund \(Cameroon\)](#)



Please feel free to send your comments, feedback and/or suggestions to Cosmas Gitta [cosmas.gitta@undp.org] Chief, Division for Policy, Special Unit for South-South Cooperation